

Serial No. 09/871,223

Docket No.: 53924US010

Remarks

Claims 1 – 20 and 44 – 65 have been cancelled so that the application now contains only method claims. New method claims 73 – 92 have been added. Support for the new claims can be found in the Substitute Specification at, e.g., paragraphs 12, 14 – 17, 43, 47 – 51, 54, 59, 61, 62, 65 – 67 and original claims 21, 33 and 34. Following entry of this Second Preliminary Amendment, claims 21 – 43 and 66 – 92 will be pending in this application.

A review of the application transmittal letter dated May 31, 2001 indicates that applicants may not have paid for all the claims filed in the application. A corrected payment is being submitted with this Second Preliminary Amendment.

A continuation of parent Application Serial No. 09/420,671 is being filed contemporaneously by applicants. That Application will initially contain only article claims. Applicants have done so to reduce the likelihood of a restriction requirement in either application and to increase the likelihood that applicants could prosecute all of the pending claims in only two applications.

Favorable examination and allowance are requested. The Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned attorney if there are any questions regarding this application.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of
3M Innovative Properties Company,



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